



*United States Attorney
Southern District of New York*

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CONTACT: U.S. ATTORNEY'S OFFICE
MARVIN SMILON, HERBERT HADAD,
MICHAEL KULSTAD
PUBLIC INFORMATION OFFICE
(212) 637-2600, (914) 993-1900

**U.S. INDICTS WALDEN MAN IN ALLEGED BANK ROBBERY SPREE
ACROSS WESTCHESTER, ORANGE AND ROCKLAND COUNTIES**

JAMES B. COMEY, the United States Attorney for the Southern District of New York, and KEVIN P. DONOVAN, the Assistant Director in Charge of the New York office of the FBI, announced that JEROME D. BROWN was indicted late yesterday by a federal grand jury sitting in White Plains in connection with five bank robberies in Westchester, Orange and Rockland counties that netted approximately \$26,234 between March 21, 2003, and May 19, 2003.

According to an April 18, 2003 criminal Complaint previously filed in connection with this investigation, on March 21, 2003, BROWN orally demanded that a teller at the Fleet National Bank, located at 385 Broadway, in Newburgh, New York, give him all of her money. The Complaint alleged that BROWN succeeded in obtaining approximately \$1,834 on that occasion.

The Indictment alleges that on three occasions between March 29, 2003, and April 16, 2003, BROWN presented notes to bank tellers threatening to blow up their respective banks if his

demands for money were not met. According to the earlier Complaint, on March 29, 2003, at the Atlantic Bank of New York, located at 2320 Central Park Avenue, in Yonkers, New York, BROWN wrote a note on an Atlantic Bank withdrawal slip stating, "EMPTY THE DRAW AND GIVE ME THE MONEY OR I WILL BLOW UP THIS PLACE NOW!!!" and presented that note to an Atlantic Bank teller. According to the Complaint, BROWN demanded \$100 and \$50 bills, and a teller handed BROWN approximately \$9,500 before BROWN fled from the bank.

The Complaint also alleged that on April 10, 2003, BROWN entered the Union State Bank located at 4 North Main Street in Spring Valley, New York, wrote a note on a Union State Bank savings withdrawal slip stating, "EMPTY THE DRAW AND GIVE ME THE CASH OR I WILL BLOW UP THIS PLACE," and presented that note to a Union State Bank teller. According to the Complaint, BROWN demanded cash in \$100, \$50 and \$20 denominations, and left the bank with approximately \$4,190.

The Complaint also alleged that on April 16, 2003, BROWN entered the First Union National Bank located at 598 Tuckahoe Road, in Yonkers, New York, and wrote a note on a First Union National Bank deposit slip stating, "EMPTY THE DRAW AND GIVE ME THE MONEY OR I WILL BLOW THIS PLACE," and handed that note to a First Union National Bank teller. According to the Complaint, BROWN left the bank with approximately \$8,010.

Finally, the Indictment alleges that on May 19, 2003, BROWN perpetrated a robbery at the Union State Bank located at 131 Central Avenue, in Tarrytown, New York, when he presented a note to a teller in which he demanded money, and left the bank with approximately \$2,700.

[BROWN was arrested in the Western District of Virginia on May 22, 2003, in connection with a bank robbery in Roanoke, Virginia. A Federal judge ordered BROWN held without bond on June 3, 2003.]

BROWN, 35, lives in Walden, Orange County, New York.

If convicted, BROWN faces a maximum of 20 years' imprisonment on each of the 5 counts on which he was indicted.

Mr. COMEY praised the efforts of the FBI, and thanked the Newburgh, Yonkers, Spring Valley and Tarrytown Police Departments for their assistance in this case.

Assistant United States Attorney MARC LITT is in charge of the prosecution.

The charges contained in the Indictment and the Complaint are merely accusations, and the defendant is presumed innocent unless and until proven guilty.

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